



One District

District One

One Community

Barbara J. Jordan

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County Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan Meets with Homeowner Association Presidents

On Wednesday, March 9, 2005, Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan met with all the Homeowner Association Presidents in District One to discuss the common concerns and issues in their respective neighborhoods. Participants also learned more about predatory lending, record expungement, the Federation of Homeowner Association Presidents, and the Florida Neighborhoods Conference.

"The purpose of this forum is to give me an opportunity to learn more about your individual concerns and projects, as well as, exchange information about issues impacting residents in District One," said Commissioner Jordan in her opening statement. "The Homeowner Associations are the backbone of this community and it is important to understand all of their issues and concerns. I commend you for your dedication and my office is committed to attending as many of your individual meetings as possible to assist you in strengthening your respective associations."

During the meeting, Chadd Lackey, Assistant State Attorney was on hand to discuss the latest on predatory lending and the creative ways that unscrupulous mortgage companies are taking homes from long time residents. Mr. Lackey encouraged the presidents to take a proactive approach by informing their community of this ever-growing problem. Commissioner Jordan discussed her intent to develop a public awareness campaign and sponsor a conference so that residents may attend and become more educated on this subject.

Mr. Lackey also discussed the issue of expungement for individuals in the community who are trying to better their situations but have a blemish on their criminal record. In many cases individuals don't know that expungement is an option nor do they have the wherewithal to navigate the process or pay the application fees. The Commissioner stated that several churches in District One have a program that assists individuals in moving through the expungement process and that she will meet with the Pastors and the Crime Watch groups in the area to expand this program into other parts of the community. She is also interested in working with the Crime Watch groups to establish a "Citizens on Patrol" network in the district.

Louis Sparks, a member of the Federation on Homeowner Associations Presidents in District two, discussed forming a co-op of civic and private homeowner associations to show strength in the community, and Team Metro's Olga Esponosa provided information on The Florida Neighborhoods



Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan welcoming Homeowner Association Presidents to forum

Conference, which is held annually in a different city in Florida, where Homeowner Associations are able to learn from other municipalities. This year's conference will be held on October 20-22, 2005 in Lakeland, Florida. Commissioner Jordan pledged her support by committing to sponsor a busload of association members from her district to attend this year's conference, which was followed by a spirited round of applause.

"I am your Commissioner for District One, allow me to speak for you on the Board of County Commissioners and together we can ensure that this community continues to grow and prosper."

Here are several precautions that should help you avoid being "taken" by a scam artist:.

- Don't sign any papers you don't fully understand.
- Make sure you get all "promises" in writing.
- Beware of any loan assumption where you are not formally released from liability for your mortgage debt and contracts of sale.
- Check with a lawyer or your mortgage company before entering into any deal involving your home.
- If you're selling the house yourself to avoid foreclosure, check to see if there are any complaints against the prospective buyer. You can contact your state's Attorney General, the State Real Estate Commission, or the local District Attorney's Consumer Fraud Unit for this type of information.

Women's History Month



Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan with a group of Homeowner Association Presidents and Foster Mothers women to whom she presented an award, on March 17, 2005 for their dedication to the Community, in the Commission Chamber.

In honor of National Women's History Month Commissioner Jordan recognized Foster Mothers and women Homeowner Association Presidents from throughout District 1. Approximately sixty women were invited to attend the March 17, Board of County Commissioners meeting where Commissioner Jordan presented each with a certificate appreciation for their outstanding contributions to Miami-Dade County.

"These women and others like them help to build and sustain strong families and neighborhoods." said Commissioner Jordan. "They have unselfishly dedicated their lives to helping others and in doing so have brought about positive change in the lives of many."

The public celebration of women's history began in 1978 as Women's History Week. In 1987, Congress expanded the celebration to a month, and March was declared Women's History Month.



Team Metro Citizens' Academy

The Team Metro Citizens' Academy is a 13 week program designed to provide residents of Miami-Dade County with the information, resources, and tools needed to become knowledgeable community members and effective neighborhood leaders. Sessions will be conducted by County staff with expertise in areas of concern.

Objectives

The Citizens' Academy provides relevant information and materials that will enable citizens to understand how the departments that make up our local government serve our communities, and understand the processes involved.

Program Description

Each session is two (2) hours, from 7:00 - 9:00 PM, one evening a week, culminating in a graduation ceremony. Classes will include an overview of county government and pertinent information from county departments that provide code enforcement, as well as quality of life issues. At the conclusion of the semester, participants should have an increased understanding of the organizational culture and operations of the various county departments that impact Miami-Dade County. Graduates of the academy will be prepared to have a role in the future of their communities, and Miami-Dade County overall, through government/citizen interaction.

Standards for Admission

- Class size will be limited to 20 participants. Acceptance for admission will be on a first come, first serve basis.
- Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.

Classes will begin promptly at seven (7) p.m.

The Citizens' Academy is a learning and information experience, not a complaint or "gripe" session. Disruptive attendees will not be accepted into the program.

Staff will make the selection of applicants; a waiting list will be created from the accepted applications.

For Information call: (305) 222-2133

Schedule of classes in District 1

| Beginning ending dates | Time | Location | Host office |
|---|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| April 13 - July 6, 2005 (Held on Wednesdays) | 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. | North Campus Bldg 1 Room 1388 | Miami Dade College |

Legislation Recently Sponsored And/Or Co-Sponsored By Commissioner Jordan

File 050192 - Resolution Directing the County Manager to Develop and present to the Board of County Commissioners a plan for the relocation, retraining and/or reemployment of employees who may be displaced by the adoption of automated garbage pickup in Miami-Dade County

Sponsors: Barbara J. Jordan, Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler, Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Carlos A. Gimenez, Sally A. Heyman, Joe A. Martinez, Dennis C. Moss, Dorrin D. Rolle, Natacha Seijas
Introduced: 1/25/2005
Committee: Infrastructure and Land Use
History: 2/8/2005 Forwarded to BCC.
Status: Adopted
Final Action: 3/1/2005

File 050681 - Resolution establishing Opa-Locka Airport Development Task Force (see original item under file no. 050233)

Sponsors: Barbara J. Jordan, Sally A. Heyman, Natacha Seijas
Introduced: 3/3/2005
Committee: Regional Transportation
History: originally introduced 1/27/2005 as file 050233. Forwarded to BCC 2/10/2005 with favorable recommendation. Carried over 3/1/2005. Amended 3/3/2005 as file 050681.
Status: Adopted as amended
Final Action: 3/9/2005

File 050749 - Resolution supporting the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and urging the United States congress to restore its funding

Sponsors: Dorrin D. Rolle, Barbara J. Jordan, Joe Martinez, Katy Sorenson
Introduced: 3/18/2005
Committee: Community Empowerment & Economic Revitalization
History: Introduced 3/2/2005 file No.050613. Amended 3/8/2005 as file No. 050749. Forwarded to BCC with favorable recommendation with committee amendment(s). The amendment offered by Commissioner Jordan to urge the United States Congress to retain the CDBG Program within the Department of Housing and Urban Development was outlined in the proposed resolution as presented.
Status: Before the Board
Agenda Date: 4/5/2005

File 050666 - Resolution urging the Florida Legislature to adopt house joint resolution 79 and senate joint resolution 1430, which would propose a constitutional amendment to freeze the tax assessments on property of qualifying senior citizens receiving homestead exemption

Sponsors: Natacha Seijas, Carlos A. Gimenez, Sally A. Heymen, Barbara J. Jordan, Joe A. Martinez, Sen. Javier D. Souto.
Introduced: 3/8/2005
Committee: Intergovernmental, Recreation & Cultural Affairs
History: 3/9/2005 forwarded to BCC with favorable recommendation
Status: Before the Board
Agenda Date: 4/5/2005

File 050584 - Ordinance creating section 12-26 of the code of Miami-Dade County, Florida; granting the right to vote in elections for County Commissioners to former Felons who have completed their sentences but who have not had their civil rights restored, and who would, but for their status as former felons, be eligible to vote under the laws of the state of Florida; providing severability, inclusion in the code, and an effective date

Sponsors: Katy Sorenson, Sally A. Heyman, Barbara J. Jordan
Introduced: 3/1/2005
Committee: Community Outreach, Safety & Healthcare Administration
Report: The foregoing proposed ordinance was adopted on first reading on 3/15/2005 and set for public hearing before the Community Outreach, Safety and Healthcare Administration Committee on April 13, 2005 at 9:30AM
Status: In Committee (Community Outreach, Safety & Healthcare Administration)
Agenda Date: 4/13/2005

File 043277 - Resolution requesting County Manager to direct Miami-Dade Police Department to Develop a comprehensive policy relating to the use of tasers and to refrain from using them on minors except in life-threatening situations

Sponsors: Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler, Barbara J. Jordan, Dorrin D. Rolle
Introduced: 11/24/2004
Status: In Committee (Community Outreach, Safety & Healthcare Administration)
Agenda Date: 5/3/2005

Community Calendar

April 2005

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|-----------|--|---|--|---|-----------|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 9:00am UPPAC MTG Greater New Bethel Baptist Church, 17025 NW 22nd Ave |
| 3 | 4 7:00pm Honoring of Chief Willie B. Marshall, Chief Leonard Burgess and Robert Parker by Brentwood CCW at Miami Gardens Police Station | 5 9:00am Board of County Commissioners meeting | 6 7:00pm Northeast Community Council 2 meeting at Highland Oaks Park 20300 NE 24th Ave. NMB | 7 9:30am Team Metro PRIDE week at Ives Estate Regional Park 7:00pm Country club of Miami Community Countil 5 mtg at Lawton Chiles Middle School 8190 NW 197th Street | 8 | 9 9:00am UPPAC MTG Greater New Bethel Baptist Church, 17025 NW 22nd Ave |
| 10 | 11 7:00pm Snake Creek Bikeway Workshop at Hibiscus Elementary | 12 6:30pm Bunche Park Elem. PTA mtg 16001 Bunche Park School Dr. | 13 6:00pm Barbara Hawkins Elem. PTA mtg. 19010 NW 37th Ave 7:00pm Biscayne Gardens Elem. PTA mtg. 560 NW 151st St. 7:00pm City of Opa Locka & Miami Gardens Council Meetings | 14 | 15 | 16 9:00am UPPAC MTG Greater New Bethel Baptist Church, 17025 NW 22nd Ave |
| 17 | 18 | 19 9:00am Board of County Commissioners meeting | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 9:00am UPPAC MTG Greater New Bethel Baptist Church, 17025 NW 22nd Ave |
| 24 | 25 | 26 7:00pm Miami Gardens CCW meeting Pentecostal Tabernacle 18415 NW 7th Ave. | 27 6:00pm Brentwood Elem. PTA Explosion Night 3101 NW 191st. St. 7:00pm City of Opa Locka & Miami Gardens City Council Meetings | 28 6:30pm Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) Community Meeting. Opa-Locka Job Corps 3050 NW 183rd St. | 29 | 30 9:00am UPPAC MTG Greater New Bethel Baptist Church, 17025 NW 22nd Ave |